



Lincolnshire-Prairie View School District 103

Memo

To: Board of Education
From: Dr. Katie Reynolds
Dr. Nina Nusbaum
CC: Dr. Scott Warren
Date: October 24, 2024
Re: Curriculum and Instruction Executive Summary

New Staff Seminars

On October 23rd, 2024 Nina and I met with the new teachers for their second after school seminar of the school year. The purpose of these seminars is to support new teachers by fostering professional growth, building connections, and sharing experiences. Each seminar focuses on a different domain on the Charlotte Danielson rubric which is new for staff evaluation. The main objectives of the seminars are to equip new teachers with tools for effective teaching, classroom management, and student engagement, focusing on best practices, innovative techniques, and technology integration. Provide an opportunity to facilitate connections with peers, mentors, and experienced educators to build a support system and foster collaboration. Encourage learning through workshops, discussions, and activities, where new teachers can share and gain insights. Promote reflection on experiences, goal-setting, and continuous improvement guided by feedback from peers and mentors. Discuss strategies for maintaining work-life balance, managing stress, and sustaining enthusiasm for teaching. A reflection sheet is provided after each seminar providing feedback on how to enhance the program.

Pages and Parenting Book Club

As part of our ongoing efforts to build community and engagement, the District is organizing a book study on *The 5 Principles of Parenting* by Dr. Aliza Pressman. This insightful book outlines essential guidelines for effective and mindful parenting, emphasizing the creation of a nurturing and supportive environment while promoting children's independence and emotional well-being. The five principles include: Love and Connection, Structure and Boundaries, Respect and Empathy, Encouragement and Support, and Parental Self-Care. The book provides practical strategies for applying these principles to different stages of child development. Seven book study groups have been created with 65 participants. The book club will conclude with a district-wide meeting in December. Additionally, the PTO Parent Education Committee will host an author night with Dr. Aliza Pressman in February.

Multilingual Learners Parent Information Night

On October 16, 2024, the district hosted a Multilingual Learners Parent Night. During this event, representatives from the PTO and the Vernon Area Library presented information about their respective organizations. Furthermore, the Multilingual Learners (ML) teachers provided valuable insights into the program's eligibility criteria, service delivery model, and the support available to English Language (EL) students.

Site-Based Staff Development Reimbursement Request

The Lake County Regional Office of Education (ROE) annually offers site-based reimbursement to districts that host on-site professional development. Our district qualifies for a \$1,500 reimbursement, and a request has been submitted and approved by the ROE. These funds will be applied toward the cost of facilitating the Building Thinking Classrooms training during the November Institute Day.